

CEQA Environmental Checklist Form

1. Project title

Control Program for Factors Contributing to the Dissolved Oxygen Impairment in the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel

2. Lead agency name and address

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region
11020 Sun Center Drive #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114

3. Contact person and phone number

Jennifer Heyd, Environmental Scientist (916) 464-4735

4. Project location

San Joaquin River Watershed: the San Joaquin River from Friant Dam to Disappointment Slough

5. Project sponsor's name and address

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region
11020 Sun Center Drive #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114

6. General plan designation

Not applicable

7. Zoning

Not applicable

8. Description of project

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) is proposing to amend the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River Basin and the San Joaquin River Basin* (Basin Plan). The purposes of the proposed amendment are 1) to describe the approach by which waste load and load allocations for oxygen demanding substances and their precursors will be determined and 2) to describe the actions that will be taken to eventually meet the Basin Plan water quality objectives.

9. Surrounding land uses and setting

The areas impacted by this basin plan amendment include the San Joaquin River watershed downstream of Friant Dam and upstream of the San Joaquin River at the confluence with Disappointment Slough northwest of Stockton. The boundary of this area, clockwise from the confluence with Disappointment Slough, is formed by Disappointment Slough and Pixley Slough to the Thornton Road bridge over Pixley Slough. At this location, the land is near sea level and the boundary becomes a natural drainage formed by Thornton Road north to

Eightmile Road. Eightmile Road forms the boundary from this intersection east to its crossing with the Western Pacific Railroad rail. The boundary becomes this rail line northwest for just over a mile to a location where the rail crosses an unnamed canal. The boundary becomes this canal east about two and a quarter miles to West Lane where the canal intersects with Pixley Slough. Here the boundary briefly becomes West Lane to where it crosses Main Canal. Main Canal then becomes the boundary north from that location to the Mokelumne River, from which the canal is diverted. From this location, the boundary becomes the natural topographic drainage divide separating the Mokelumne River upstream of Main Canal from surrounding watersheds to where the divide intersects the San Joaquin County line.

The east boundary of the area is formed by the eastern edge of the San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Merced County lines. Where the Merced County line meets the Madera County line, the boundary becomes the CalWater boundary until it reaches the San Joaquin River at Friant Dam.

The southern boundary is formed by the San Joaquin River to the Mendota Pool. Here the boundary becomes the southern edge of Calwater RBUASPW areas 654120000 (Los Banos Hydrologic Area), 654241052, 654241053, and 654241054. Where 654241054 meets San Benito County, the border becomes the county line north of that location.

The eastern boundary of San Benito County and the western edges of Merced, Stanislaus, and a portion of San Joaquin counties forms the western boundary. Though some water in the project area does originate in San Benito County, it is excluded because the water from this region does not significantly impact the affected water bodies. Western Merced and Stanislaus counties and the southwestern boundary of San Joaquin County were chosen because the county lines are coincident with the crest of the Coast Range.

The southern boundary of the Marsh Creek watershed in the northern reaches of the Coast Range near Danville forms the beginning of the northern edge of the boundary of the project area. This drainage boundary forms this region of the project area to the intersection with Contra Costa Canal. At this location, Contra Costa Canal becomes the boundary to where it spills into (diverted from?) Rock Slough. Here the land is below sea level and Rock Slough becomes the boundary to Old River, which then becomes the boundary north to Connection Slough. Connection Slough forms the boundary from this location to Middle River. Middle River then becomes the boundary to Columbia Cut, which forms the boundary between Middle River and the San Joaquin River and empties to the San Joaquin River just across the river from Disappointment Slough. The land uses in the area include agriculture, wetlands, and urban.

10. Other public agencies whose approval is required

State Water Resources Control Board

Office of Administrative Law

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic |

DETERMINATION:

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- ☒ I find that the Proposed Project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☐ I find that although the Proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the Project have been made by or agreed to by the Project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☐ I find that the Proposed Project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- ☐ I find that the Proposed Project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect: 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- ☐ I find that although the Proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the Proposed Project, nothing further is required.

Signature

Date

Dennis Westcot, Environmental Program Mgr.
Printed Name

Cal. Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

This Environmental Checklist has been prepared in compliance with the requirements of CEQA relating to certified regulatory programs.

IMPACT	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT UNLESS MITIGATION INCORPORATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	No IMPACT
I. AESTHETICS Would the Project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES: In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the Project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
III. AIR QUALITY – Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control the District may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the Project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the Project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

IMPACT	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT UNLESS MITIGATION INCORPORATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?				
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – Would the Project:

a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly, or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulators, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES – Would the Project:

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

IMPACT	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT UNLESS MITIGATION INCORPORATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
resource pursuant to §15064.5?				
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource of site or unique geological feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS – Would the Project:

a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure,, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the Project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS – Would the Project:

a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				
e) For a Project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the Project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the Project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a Project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the Project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the Project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY – Would the Project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of preexisting nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which results in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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e) Create or contribute runoff water which exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING – Would the Project:

a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the Project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

X. MINERAL RESOURCES – Would the Project:

a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

XI. NOISE – Would the Project result in:

a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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IMPACT	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT UNLESS MITIGATION INCORPORATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the Project vicinity above levels existing without the Project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the Project vicinity above levels existing without the Project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a Project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the Project expose people residing or working in the Project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a Project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the Project expose people residing or working in the Project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

XII. POPULATION AND HOUSING – Would the Project?

a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES

a) Would the Project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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XIV. RECREATION				
a) Would the Project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the Project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC – Would the Project:				
a) Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio to roads, or congestion at intersections?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion/management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS – Would the Project?				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

IMPACT	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT UNLESS MITIGATION INCORPORATION	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO IMPACT
expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the Project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the Project that it has adequate capacity to serve the Project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the Project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

a) Does the Project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the Project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probably future projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the Project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

THRESHOLDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

For the purposes of making impact determinations, potential impacts were determined to be significant if the proposed project, or its alternatives would result in changes in environmental condition that would, either directly or indirectly, cause a substantial loss of habitat or substantial degradation of water quality or other resources.

Discussion of Environmental Impacts

Analysis of potential environmental impacts is based primarily on the execution of the studies described in Section 4.6. No other physical changes to the environment would result from the actions proposed in this Basin Plan Amendment. Expanded discussion is included only for checklist questions answered Potentially Significant Impact, Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation, or Less than Significant Impact.

I. Aesthetics

The proposed Basin Plan Amendment does not include activities that would alter any scenic vistas, damage scenic resources, degrade the visual character of any site, or adversely affect day or nighttime views.

II. Agricultural Resources

The project would not convert farmland to non-agricultural uses as no changes to land use designations are being sought. Agricultural dischargers may eventually use a variety of water and drainage management practices or other potential strategies to comply with the proposed Basin Plan Amendment. Such practices are unlikely to lead to conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses. Specific projects implemented to comply with the proposed regulation would need to be evaluated by the implementing entity, as necessary.

III. Air Quality

The proposed Basin Plan Amendment does not include activities that would have any effect on air quality.

IV. Biological Resources

The purpose of the proposed Basin Plan Amendment is implementation of a program to eventually bring San Joaquin River into compliance with existing Basin Plan DO water quality objectives. It is anticipated that the studies needed initially will not have an impact on biological resources and that the eventual alternate implementation measures employed by the various responsible entities to comply with the proposed TMDL and program of implementation would, in fact, result in improved conditions for aquatic biota in the Stockton DWSC. Before any projects are implemented to improve DO conditions in the DWSC, detailed environmental impact analysis and mitigation of any potential negative impacts on biological resources would need to be performed in conjunction with those projects.

Portions of the TMDL project area are located within the known range of the Fall/Late Fall-run Chinook Salmon; however, adverse impacts to this federal candidate species (also a state Species of Concern) are not expected as a result of the proposed project.

V. Cultural Resources

Implementation of the proposed Basin Plan Amendment would not likely to affect cultural resources.

VI. Geology and Soils

Implementation of the proposed Basin Plan Amendment would not affect the geology of the region and would not expose people to additional geologic hazards. Water and drainage management practices implemented by agricultural dischargers to comply with the proposed regulation may, in fact, reduce soil erosion and loss of topsoil that is occurring in the project area.

VII. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Implementation of the proposed Basin Plan Amendment would not create hazards or affect handling of hazardous materials.

VIII. Hydrology and Water Quality

The purpose of the proposed Basin Plan Amendment is implementation of a program to eventually bring San Joaquin River into compliance with existing Basin Plan DO water quality objectives. It is anticipated that the studies needed initially will not have an impact on hydrology and water quality and that the eventual implementation measures employed by the various responsible entities to comply with the proposed TMDL and program of implementation would, in fact, result in improved water quality.

Implementation of the proposed Basin Plan Amendment is not likely to result in violation of water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or deplete groundwater supplies. Implementation of the proposed regulation is unlikely to affect stormwater drainage systems, provide additional sources of polluted runoff, substantially degrade water quality, have an effect on flood flows, or increase the chance of inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow. Specific projects implemented to comply with the proposed regulation would need to be evaluated for its affects on hydrology and water quality by the implementing entity, as necessary.

IX. Land Use and Planning

Implementation of the proposed Basin Plan Amendment should not result in any changes in land use or planning.

X. Mineral Resources

Implementation of the proposed Basin Plan Amendment should have no effect on mineral resources.

XI. Noise

The actions proposed in this Basin Plan Amendment should not lead to any increase in exposure to noise.

XII. Population and Housing

Implementation of the proposed Basin Plan Amendment would not directly or indirectly induce population growth in the area, displace existing housing, or displace people.

XII. Public Services

The proposed Basin Plan Amendment would not have an impact on public services.

XIV. Recreation

There should be no increase in use of parks or recreational facilities or the need for new or expanded recreational facilities as a result of this proposed Basin Plan Amendment.

XV. Transportation/Traffic

The proposed Basin Plan Amendment would not have an impact on transportation or traffic.

XVI. Utilities and Service Systems

The proposed Basin Plan Amendment do not include new limits on loads of oxygen demanding substances or their precursors from wastewater treatment plants or stormwater discharges at this time. Likewise, no new limits are proposed at this time for agricultural and wetland dischargers. Studies performed as part of the phased implementation approach, however, may lead to such limitations in future Basin Plan Amendments or other regulatory actions by the CVRWQCB or the SWRCB.

XVII. Mandatory Findings of Significance

The purpose of the proposed Basin Plan Amendment is to implement existing DO water quality objectives through general waste load and load allocations and a program of additional study and demonstration projects eventually leading to the implementation of measures to eliminate the impairment. Implementation of the proposed Basin Plan Amendment would therefore likely result in improved quality of the environment with respect to improved DO concentrations in the San Joaquin River. Future Basin Plan Amendments will establish new waste load and load allocations and other actions as needed. Other Basin Plan Amendments will likely establish new water quality objectives for other pollutants such as pesticides and other control programs to comply with new or existing objectives. The cumulative impacts of these additional regulations will be evaluated at the time of those future Basin Plan Amendments.

STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATION

A statement of overriding considerations must be made when an agency approves a project that will result in significant impacts. The statement of overriding considerations justifies why the agency is approving the project even though significant impacts have been identified (CEQA Guidelines Section 1603).

The environmental analysis contained in this Basin Plan Amendment staff report and the Environmental Checklist contained therein does not identify any direct significant impacts of the proposed project on the environment.